

# Consolidated Iron And Metal

## New York

EPA ID#: NY0002455756

### EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 18

Orange  
Newburgh

#### NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 12/1/2000

Final Date: 6/14/2001

Deletion Date: 12/3/2014

## Site Description

The Consolidated Iron and Metal site is an inactive car and scrap metal junk yard located at the foot of Washington Street in the City of Newburgh, Orange County, New York. The facility operated from the mid-1950's until 1999. The facility occupies about 7 acres of land bordering the Hudson River in a mixed industrial, commercial, and residential area. The site is bounded by a boat marina and restaurant to the north, Conrail railroad tracks and South Water Street to the west, a wastewater treatment plant to the south, and the Hudson River to the east. Before EPA conducted a clearing operation at the site in 2003, the Consolidated Iron facility consisted of tire and scrap metal piles throughout the southern portion of the site; a smelter, a compactor, and a metal shear along the western portion of the site; and an office, scale, and garage located in the northern portion of the site. The City of Newburgh has acquired the property.

Scrap metal processing and storage operations took place at the site for approximately 40 years, during which time various types of scrap metal were received, including whole automobiles, automobile engines, transmissions, and batteries, keypunch machines, computer parts, white goods (appliances), and transformers. According to the former owner, the smelter operated between 1975 and 1995. The smelter was used primarily to melt aluminum transmissions to produce a reusable aluminum product. Other materials were also smelted, resulting in a lead-contaminated ash/slag by-product. Other operations included sorting ferrous and non-ferrous metal scrap for recycling, baling and shearing large pieces of metal, including whole cars, into smaller pieces for transport, and flattening of cars.

From 1997 to 1999, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) conducted several inspections at the facility. NYSDEC observed oil and other waste liquids on the facility soils and storm water being discharged into the Hudson River from the northeast corner of the property without appropriate testing or permits. In 1999, the New York State Attorney General filed a lawsuit against the company for environmental law violations, resulting in the company ceasing operations.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal actions. EPA's efforts at the site are coordinated with NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

## Threat and Contaminants

Sampling performed by EPA indicates that surface and subsurface soils are impacted by volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and metals.

## Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two phases: initial actions, completed in fall 2003, and a long-term remedial action phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

#### Initial Actions

In August 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sampled an ash/slag pile at the site that was generated by the aluminum smelting operation and found it to be contaminated with lead and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The scrap metal in the pile was segregated out and the resulting fine pile, estimated at 6,600 tons, was removed from the site in 1999 and placed in a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)-approved treatment, storage, and disposal facility (TSDF) for stabilization and landfilling. Also in 1999, EPA sampled other processed soil piles at the site which were also found to be contaminated with lead and PCBs; these soil piles, too, were transferred to a

RCRA-approved TSDF. Additionally in 1999, EPA constructed a berm from site soils to prevent storm water from carrying site contaminants into the Hudson River.

In December 2000, a Hazard Ranking System package was prepared using data collected from the site. The data indicated the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, PCBs, and metals at concentrations greater than screening criteria in the surface and subsurface soils. As a result, the site was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in June 2001.

In August 2002, EPA responded to local concerns about trespassing and scavenging taking place at the site and began the construction of a security fence. The fence was completed in September 2002. During this time, the City of Newburgh and Orange County were able to remove 15 loads of tires (10,000-20,000 tires) and 8 loads of scrap metal from the site.

In order to conduct the sampling program to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site, it was necessary to clear the site of the debris and some of the structures located on-site. Accordingly, beginning in June 2003, EPA conducted a site clearing operation, which was completed in September 2003. The site clearing included the removal of tires, scrap metal, concrete, lead impacted soil, and hydraulic oil from the site and the demolition and clearing of the office building and three process buildings.

## Cleanup Progress

Initial actions taken by EPA at the site, including the removal of an ash/slag pile and processed soil piles, restricting site access, and clearing the site of tires, debris, and structures have eliminated the immediate risks posed to nearby residents, such as the potential for the dispersal of wind blown contaminants. In addition, EPA has conducted a search for potentially responsible parties which may elect to execute the site cleanup. A remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) work plan was completed in 2003. Field sampling for the remedial investigation was completed in 2004. The RI and FS reports were developed throughout 2005, and were finalized in 2006. EPA prepared a Proposed Plan for cleanup of the site, which was released for public review during summer 2006. Following the consideration of comments received on its Proposed Plan, EPA signed a Record of Decision in October 2006. The elements of the selected remedial action include: the removal and off-site disposal of surface debris and the remaining building foundations and structures; excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil exceeding the cleanup goal for lead to a depth of six feet from surface; the excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil exceeding the cleanup goal for VOCs and PCBs in the subsurface soils to the water table; backfilling of the excavated areas with clean fill to grade; institutional controls; and a site management plan providing for the management of all remedy components post-construction.

In 2008, EPA began preparing the site for the final clean up. These preparatory activities included the demolition and removal of remaining building foundations, the removal of scrap metal, debris, and contaminated soil. Following the preparatory activities, EPA developed a remedial design in 2009 and construction of the remedial action commenced on July 6, 2009. The work was completed in August 2010. Upon completion, approximately 117,000 tons of contaminated soil was removed from the site and replaced with clean fill. EPA subsequently completed a Remedial Action Report in March 2012 and a Final Close-Out Report in June 2014. A Site Management Plan was developed by the City of Newburgh in June 2014 to provide for all post-remedial action maintenance and monitoring to be performed at the site. In September 2014, a Five Year Review was completed which concluded that the implemented remedy for the site is protective of human health and the environment. On October 1, 2014, EPA published a Notice of Intent to Delete the site from the National Priorities List, indicating that no further response actions are necessary.

## Site Repositories

Newburgh Free Library, 124 Grand Street, Newburgh, New York 12550; USEPA Region 2, Superfund Records Center, 290 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, New York 10007